

Listing of Claims

Claims 1-31 canceled.

32. (Original) A system for data reading and electronic article surveillance (EAS) deactivation, comprising

a housing including a lower housing section containing a lower window oriented generally horizontally and an upper housing section containing a upper window oriented generally vertically;

a data reader disposed in the housing to read an item through the upper and lower windows as the item is passed through a scan volume defined between the upper and lower windows;

a first EAS deactivation coil unit including (a) a central portion and (b) outer windings disposed around the central portion, wherein the first EAS deactivation coil unit is disposed in one of the lower and upper housing sections and to one lateral side of the window thereof.

33. (Original) A system according to Claim 32 further comprising

a weigh platter, the lower window disposed in the weigh platter;

an inner scan housing containing lower scanner components, wherein the deactivation unit is disposed in a cavity between the weigh platter and the inner scan housing.

34. (Original) A system according to Claim 32 wherein the first EAS deactivation coil unit comprises a downstream EAS coil

unit disposed on a downstream side of the window, the system further comprising an upstream EAS coil unit disposed in the housing on a side of the window opposite the first EAS deactivation coil unit.

35. (Original) A system according to Claim 34 wherein the upstream EAS coil unit comprises a sensing unit for sensing presence of an EAS tag approaching the scan volume.

36. (Original) A system according to Claim 34 wherein the upstream EAS coil unit comprises a second EAS deactivation coil unit.

37. (Original) A system according to Claim 32, wherein the first EAS deactivation coil unit is constructed and arranged to be interchangeable as between one lateral side of the window to the other.

38. (Original) A system according to Claim 32 wherein the first section EAS deactivation unit comprises a coil having a plurality of windings without a solid core.

39. (Original) A system according to Claim 32 wherein the first section EAS deactivation unit comprises a coil having a plurality of windings with a core of magnetically active material.

40. (Original) A system for data reading and electronic article surveillance (EAS) deactivation, comprising

a housing including a window adapted for facing a scan volume;

a data reader disposed in the housing to read an item through the window as the item is passed in a sweep direction through the scan volume;

a first EAS deactivation coil unit including (a) an elongated central portion and (b) outer winding(s) disposed around the central portion,

wherein the deactivation coil unit is disposed in the housing adjacent to the window for deactivating an EAS tag on an item being passed through the scan volume.

41. (Original) A system according to Claim 40 further comprising

a weigh platter, the lower window disposed in the weigh platter;

an inner scan housing containing lower scanner components, wherein the deactivation unit is disposed in a cavity between the weigh platter and the inner scan housing.

42. (Original) A system according to Claim 40 wherein the first EAS deactivation coil unit comprises a downstream EAS coil unit disposed on a downstream side of the window, the system further comprising an upstream EAS coil unit disposed in the housing on a side of the window opposite the first EAS deactivation coil unit.

43. (Original) A system according to Claim 42 wherein the upstream EAS coil unit comprises a sensing unit for sensing presence of an EAS tag approaching the scan volume.

44. (Original) A system according to Claim 42 wherein the upstream EAS coil unit comprises a second EAS deactivation coil unit.

45. (Original) A system according to Claim 40 wherein the first EAS deactivation coil unit is constructed and arranged to be interchangeable as between one lateral side of the window to the other.

46. (Original) A system according to Claim 40 wherein the first section EAS deactivation unit comprises a coil having a plurality of windings without a solid core.

47. (Original) A system according to Claim 40 wherein the first section EAS deactivation unit comprises a coil having a plurality of windings with a core of magnetically active material.

48. (Original) A method for checkout of an item bearing an optical code and having a deactivatable security tag, comprising the steps of:

passing the item along an item path and through a read volume of a data reader, the data reader being disposed in a housing;

reading the optical label on the item with the data reader through a window in the housing;

generating a security tag deactivation field with a security tag deactivation unit, the deactivation unit being disposed in the housing, and the deactivation field being located in the item path downstream of the read volume;

wherein once the data reader has read the optical code on the item and identified it, activating the security tag deactivation field and deactivating the security tag.

49. (Original) A method according to Claim 48 wherein the deactivation field overlaps to some extent with the read volume.

50. (Original) A method according to Claim 48 further comprising

generating a security tag detection field with a detection unit, the detection unit being disposed in the housing, and the detection field being located in the item path upstream of the read volume;

alerting the deactivation unit upon detection of a security tag.

51. (Original) A system for data reading and electronic article surveillance (EAS) deactivation, comprising

a housing including a window adapted for facing a scan volume;

a data reader disposed in the housing to read an item through the window as the item is passed in a sweep direction through the scan volume;

a first EAS unit located in the housing toward an upstream side of the window, the first EAS unit comprising an EAS detector for sensing presence of EAS tags on items on an upstream side of the scan volume;

a second EAS unit located generally downstream of the scan volume, the second EAS unit comprising an EAS deactivation coil for deactivating EAS tags.

52. (Original) A system according to Claim 51 wherein the second EAS unit comprises a plurality of windings disposed about an interior.

53. (Original) A system according to 52 wherein the interior comprises a core of magnetically active material.

54. (Original) A system according to Claim 51 wherein the second EAS deactivation unit comprises (a) an elongated central portion and (b) outer winding(s) disposed around the central portion.

55. (Original) A system according to Claim 51 further comprising a controller receiving input from both the data reader and the first EAS unit, and controlling activation of the EAS deactivation coil.

56. (Original) A system according to Claim 51 wherein the first EAS unit comprises an EAS detector for sensing EAS tags on items approaching the scan volume.

Claims 57-76 cancelled

77. (New) A checkout device comprising: a scale assembly including a base portion and a weigh scale over the base portion; wherein the weigh plate includes an aperture; a barcode reader between the base portion and the weight scale which reads a barcode through the aperture in the weigh plate; and a

security label deactivation system between the base portion and the weigh plate.

78. (New) The checkout device as recited in claim 77, wherein the barcode reader enables the security label deactivation system following reading of the barcode.

79. (New) The checkout device as recited in claim 77, wherein the security label deactivation system includes a magnetic coil assembly for sensing and deactivating a security label.

80. (New) The checkout device as recited in claim 79, wherein the barcode reader reads the barcode before the magnetic coil assembly senses and deactivates the security label.

81. (New) The checkout device as recited in claim 77, further comprising an interlock which enables the security label deactivation system following reading of the barcode.

82. (New) The checkout device as recited in claim 77, wherein the scale assembly fits within a standard checkstand hole measuring about 11.5 inches by 20 inches.

83. (New) A checkout system comprising: a checkout device including a scale assembly including a base portion and a weigh scale over the base portion; wherein the weigh plate includes an aperture; a barcode reader between the base portion and the weight scale which reads a barcode through the aperture in the weigh plate; and an security label deactivation system between

the base portion and the weight scale; a transaction terminal; and a cable coupling the checkout device to the transaction terminal, including lines for providing power to the barcode reader and the scale assembly.

84. (New) The checkout system as recited in claim 83, wherein the cable further comprises additional lines for carrying data between the transaction terminal and the barcode reader and between the transaction terminal and the scale.

85. (New) The checkout system as recited in claim 83, wherein the cable is a Y-shaped cable.

86. (New) The checkout system as recited in claim 85, wherein the barcode reader includes first and second ports.

87. (New) The checkout system as recited in claim 86, wherein the Y-shaped cable includes a first connector which is coupled to a third port of the transaction terminal, a second connector which is coupled to the first port of the barcode reader, and a third connector which is coupled to a fourth port of the scale assembly.

88. (New) A checkout method comprising the steps of: reading a barcode label on an item moving in a path, which crosses an aperture of a scale weigh plate by a barcode reader between the aperture and a scale base portion; sending a signal to an interlock by the barcode reader; enabling a security label deactivation system between the scale weigh plate and the scale base portion and in a downstream position from the barcode



reader relative to the path of the item; detecting a security label on the item by the security label deactivation system as the item moves along the path and crosses the security label deactivation system; and deactivating the security label by the security label deactivation system.

89. (New) The method as recited in claim 88, wherein the detecting step comprises the substeps of: sensing movement a magnetic material in the security label as it passes near a coil assembly in the security label deactivation system.

90. (New) The method as recited in claim 88, wherein the detecting step comprises the substeps of: demagnetizing a magnetic material in the security label as it passes near a coil assembly in the security label deactivation system.